

## **Route 66 Initiative**

### **Four Year Progress Report**

**June 2008**

### **Route 66: The Big Picture**

Route 66 was the first highway through eight states, connecting Chicago to Los Angeles. In 1938 the entire highway was continuously paved, and was operated until 1970 when new four-lane highways bypassed most of the old segments. Vehicles that traveled the highway were not as fuel efficient as they are today, and a lot of gas stations were needed along the way. Many of the fueling systems leaked into the soil and groundwater. In June 2004, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality created the Route 66 Initiative in Arizona to:

- Remove abandoned (orphan) underground storage tanks (USTs) through the Municipal Tank Closure Program (MTCP)
- Identify and clean up UST releases
- Assist UST owners, operators, and volunteers with the identification, and cleanup of UST releases
- Expedite leaking UST (LUST) case closures before the termination of the State Assurance Fund in 2011

### **Benefits**

- Reduction in risk to human health and the environment
- Revitalization of cities and towns
- Increased property values

### **Rt 66 LUST Site Status**

The number of LUST sites that remain open (corrective actions incomplete) along Rt 66 has been reduced from 96 to 69 sites since the beginning of the initiative. Only 5 new LUST sites have been discovered since 2004. To date, corrective actions have been completed at 278 of the 347 LUST sites (total)

Of the remaining open LUST sites, 25 are undergoing active remediation. Corrective actions are being managed by

owners/operators of the LUSTs or volunteers at 55 sites. ADEQ is managing corrective actions at 14 sites.

<b>Rt 66 LUST Site Status - 2004</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>Total LUST Sites</b>	<b>Closed LUST Sites (All Releases Closed)</b>	<b>Open LUST Sites (Corrective Actions Incomplete)</b>
Holbrook-Winslow area	81	26	55
Flagstaff to Topock (Rt 66 West)	261	220	41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>96</b>

<b>Rt 66 LUST Site Status - June 2008</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>Total LUST Sites</b>	<b>Closed LUST Sites (All Releases Closed)</b>	<b>Open LUST Sites (Corrective Actions Incomplete)</b>
Holbrook-Winslow area	82	39	43
Flagstaff to Topock (Rt 66 West)	265	239	26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>69</b>

### **County and Municipal Tank Closure Program (CMTCP)**

The CMTCP went into effect in August 2004, and is designed to provide assistance to counties, cities and towns with abandoned (orphan) underground storage tanks. Unincorporated areas of the counties, and incorporated cities and towns with a population less than 15,000 are eligible. Statewide, tanks have been removed at 78 sites, and on Rt 66 tanks have been removed at 37 sites. LUST releases were encountered at less than 1/3 of these sites.

<b>Rt 66 CMTCP Sites</b>	
<b>County</b>	<b>Sites</b>
Navajo	23
Coconino	6
Yavapai	5
Mohave	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>

## **Communications - Goals/Highlights**

- Success depends on effective communication and cooperation among ADEQ case managers, tank owners, operators, and cleanup volunteers, their consultants, local officials and the people in communities along Route 66.
- ADEQ and U.S. EPA websites keep the public up to date on activities in their communities related to corrective actions and initiatives related to redevelopment opportunities at UST sites.
- U.S. EPA with assistance from ADEQ sponsored meetings in January 2006 in Winslow and Holbrook to discuss redevelopment opportunities for UST sites, and a final draft report was published by the U.S. EPA at the end of the summer 2006.
- In April 2008, the City of Kingman, Mohave County, ADEQ and the U.S. EPA sponsored a meeting in Kingman to explore cleanup and redevelopment opportunities at UST sites along the Rt 66 corridor in western Arizona.
- ADEQ participated in Rt 66 Initiative status update meetings in Holbrook, Winslow and Seligman.

## **Stakeholders/Active Participants**

- Representatives of Cities, Towns and Counties along Rt 66
- Byron James - ADEQ liaison in NE Arizona
- Matt Capalby - ADEQ Northern Regional Office
- Property owners
- Consultants
- ADEQ Tank Programs staff
- Other ADEQ Programs
  - Brownfields, Permits, Communications, Management, etc.

## **Timeline**

- June 2004 - First town meetings in Holbrook and Winslow
- August - September 2004 - Case manager assigned to Holbrook
- September - October 2004 - Case manager assigned to Winslow
- October - December 2004 - Individual meetings Holbrook, Winslow and Joseph City with property owners and consultants
- October 2004 - Technical strategy meetings (Holbrook) with consultants
- December 2004 - Web site established
- January - February 2005 - ADEQ liaison (Byron James) - office hours in Holbrook

- January - June 2005 - 9 CAPs pending for sites in Holbrook and Winslow finalized
- May 2005 - Assigned new case managers to Route 66 sites west of Winslow
- June 2005 - One year anniversary since inception
- July - August 2005 - ADEQ briefs Winslow and Holbrook City Councils on Rt. 66 initiative status
- November 2005 - ADEQ, EPA, and City/County officials met to discuss EPA's plan for January conference
- January 2006 - EPA's Redevelopment Opportunities Conference in Winslow and Holbrook
- April - May 2006 - EPA completes draft conference report
- June 2006 - Two year anniversary since inception
- June 2006 - Representatives of the city and ADEQ visited sites along Route 66 and discussed site status and funding opportunities for cleanup and redevelopment
- August - September 2006 - EPA publishes report - The Route 66 Partnership - Exploring Cleanup and Redevelopment Opportunities. ADEQ personnel visit sites in Holbrook to assess the status of and progress of remedial technologies currently in use
- October 2006 - ADEQ personnel meet with city and county personnel in Winslow and Holbrook re: current project status
- December 2006 - ADEQ presents Route 66 project at Seligman Town Hall meeting
- March 2007 - ADEQ personnel meet with city and county representatives in Kingman to discuss the Route 66 project and future meetings/activities in Kingman and Mohave County
- March 2007 - ADEQ presents Route 66 project at Flagstaff Brownfields Conference
- June 2007 - Three year anniversary since inception
- Fall 2007 - ADEQ reconnaissance to determine locations of possible orphan tank sites along the Rt 66 West corridor
- October 2007 - Project status meeting with the Holbrook Investment and Development Council
- April 2008 - Exploring Cleanup and Redevelopment Opportunities meeting in Kingman
- June 2008 - Four year anniversary since inception

### **Challenges - Hydrology and Cleanup Technologies**

Fine grained variable lithologies and shallow groundwater depths have posed unique challenges in determining the appropriate cleanup technologies for Winslow and Holbrook. A variety of cleanup methods are planned or in use, including:

- Multi-phase extraction
- Excavation
- Free product removal
- Vapor extraction
- Air sparging
- Chemical oxidation
- Natural attenuation

The shallow aquifer in both Winslow and Holbrook are typically not used for drinking water. City drinking water wells are located well outside the impacted areas.

### **ADEQ Route 66 Initiative Web site**

Accessible through the [Tank Programs link](#).

The website includes site status tables for sites in Winslow, Holbrook, Joseph City, Kingman, Flagstaff, Bellemont, Williams, and Parks, and other sites between Ash Fork and Topock. The website also includes site location maps, and general information about LUST sites along Route 66 in Arizona.

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